Livingston College

Livingston Alumni Association of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

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Message from the President----

Jeffrey Isaacs '84

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer as the LAA and I look toward September and the beginning of our programming year. We have several new events planned for this year, and we hope you will enjoy and participate. During the fall, in addition to our annual Homecoming celebration, on October 25th versus Pitt, we will be holding a Theater Night. For the second new event, I have made arrangements with the Athletic Department to hold an LAA Day at the RAC for a Saturday afternoon basketball game. We are planning a February date, but since the basketball schedule is not finalized, I don't have an exact date. The cost will be about $30 for members, and will include a ticket to the game, parking and a brunch reception inside the RAC.

Many of you read articles in the newspapers last summer and fall describing how Livingston College will be absorbed into Rutgers College. In fact, many of you may have even chosen to not pay your dues to the LAA in fear of that unthinkable event actually coming to fruition! I am here to assure you that such nonsense will not be taking place! In a meeting with University President Francis Lawrence on May 6th, I spoke very candidly about this issue and many others affecting Livingston College. The President assured me that he clearly sees the need for Livingston College and that there are no plans to merge it with Rutgers College. In a February letter to the editor of the Newark Star Ledger, Dr. Lawrence openly defended Livingston and its students. The Ledger had been critical of Livingston for supposedly not providing the same quality of education as other RU units and not having as bright a student body. This marked the first time that Dr. Lawrence publicly showed his support for Livingston, and we certainly hope that this will not be the last!

Continued on next page

We have contracted with a private corporation, Interfunct, to do a survey of how the LAA might best serve alumni. Unfortunately, the survey has been postponed because of organizational problems at the company. We have been assured, however, that our project will move forward this fall. If you are in our random sample, PLEASE, PLEASE, RESPOND in a timely fashion. Your responses are very important to the LAA and we would like to receive a wide sample of opinions.

Finally, you should have received this year's mailing asking you to become a member of the LAA. If you have not, you may use the coupon enclosed with this newsletter. I cannot tell you how important it is for everyone to become a member of the LAA. Besides the ability we would have to provide you with more programs and discounts, it would send a strong message to the University that Livingston Alumni care about their College. With increased membership also comes the added bonus of additional revenue from the Rutgers University Alumni Federation. So please, reach for your checkbook and JOIN the LAA right now, while this is fresh in your mind! You CAN make a difference! Thank you.

Jeff Isaacs welcomes Joan deVelder and Joan Seguine Le Vine, both the Class of '72.

From left, Honorees Gerald Pomper, Roger Cohen, Jeff Isaacs, Martin Gliserman, and Emma Warren.

After the awards, Bernice Weinberg, JoAnn Dressendorfer, '82, Dean Hyndman, and Kaz Wilson, '92, congratulate Roger Cohen.

Message From The Dean ----

Alumni of Livingston College often ask me about the outlook for the College. One of the best ways to make a forecast about Livingston is to examine the events of immediate past and the plans for the near future. By these measures the future for Livingston looks secure. This year the College has strengthened its mission and its academic and student life programs. Our theme for the year was "Same latitude, new attitude." This phrase symbolized an acknowledgment of our past, a commitment to our present, and a determination to face the future with bold innovation.

Many new programs, events and other initiatives highlighted this year. Among them were: 1) a new recruitment brochure - this and other recruitment efforts has resulted in an increase in applications, acceptances and new students who will be coming to Livingston. These increases were the highest among the New Brunswick colleges; 2) we made significant improvements to the College's WEB site. I invite you to check it out @ http://info. rutgers. edu. /nbcampus /livingston; 3) The College and its Fellows sponsored a series of three lectures entitled Global Futures Symposia. The lectures highlighted processes that dissolve and reaffirm national and global identities within the context of dramatic social, economic and political changes.
Other academic events sponsored by the College included; a talk by Dr. Dieter Stekis - Director of the Dianne Fosse gorilla project in Rwanda, a panel on terrorism that featured representatives from the FBI, State Department and United Nations, and the 2nd National Asian Indian Conference.

In four years, thanks to the support of alumni and other friends, the College has established four named scholarships. The third of these scholarships is named for the first dean of the College, Ernest Lynton. I am pleased to announce that the first recipient of this scholarship will be David Gribben, a Livingston College junior with a strong academic record, who has been effective in student activities as well.

If the recent past was good, the immediate future looks to be even better. For the first time in many years, beginning this fall nearly all Livingston First Year Students will take the majority of their classes on the Livingston Campus. We refer to this as the Livingston Cluster.

As part of our ongoing efforts to improve the academic experience of Livingston students, we have developed a mission course for first year students. The course, "Seeking Justice and Creating Community," will explore the formation of group identity, the nature of intergroup conflict and various attempts to resolve local, national or global conflicts. Complementing the course will be a series of college-sponsored co-curricular and extracurricular activities. In total these efforts are designed to reinforce the mission of the college as a diverse learning community committed to developing the leadership potential of students.

The coming academic year will also see noteworthy improvement at the Livingston Recreation and Student Centers, continued efforts to tailor classes on the Campus to meet the needs of our students, to strengthen our ties to some of the professional schools, and to add new mission courses to the curriculum. The college's theme for the coming year will be "Shaping a Community." This is a very suitable theme because Livingston College is a place that teaches students to function effectively in community building on a local, national and global level. I believe that community building is in reality a contemporary way to carry out Livingston's historical mission. With your involvement, encouragement and support Livingston will remain a healthy and unique learning community.

New RU Sports Logo

FOCUS ON MEMBERS

Troy Edwards, a'94 Biological Sciences major at Livingston, received honors as an undergraduate for his Biology research project on Ehlers Danlos Syndrome IV and became the second author of a paper that has been published in the Annals of New York Academy of Science Journal. No wonder that Troy matriculated at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in August 1994, as a candidate for a joint M.D./Ph. D. Program. At RWJMS, Troy has been active in the Student National Medical Association and in a student-operated clinic for homeless and indigent people in the local area. Active in sports, Troy is also a member of the RWJ school soccer team.

This summer, Troy is working at the Cancer Institute and is also entering the graduate School of Biomedical Sciences to complete his Ph. D. He has received accolades for his motivation and enthusiasm in assisting with a recent Liaison Committee for Medical Education Site Visit and has volunteered in the Cell Biology and Histology courses.

HONORARY ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER

On April 19th, the LAA held its annual Honorary Alumni Awards Dinner. This year we inducted four long time Livingston College supporters as Honorary Alumni. There were Roger Cohen of the Journalism and Mass Media Department; Martin Gliserman of the English Department; Gerald Pomper of Political Science; and long time Director of the Kilmer Library, Emma Warren.

In addition to the presentation of awards, four classes presented gifts to the College as follows: Kaz Wilson, President of the Class of'92 presented $1,000.00 to the Lynton Scholarship Fund; Linda Zytynski, Agent for the Class of'87, presented $2,000.00 to the Lynton Scholarship Fund; Bill Bowman, President of the Class of'82 presented $5,000.00 to the Livingston Mediation Project; and Bill Cole, Agent for '77, presented $5,000.00 to the Livingston Dean's Fund.

CLASS REUNION IN '98

1998 will mark Reunion Years for the classes of '73,'78,'83, '88 and'93. Officers, Committee Members, or a random selection of class members have been contacted to attempt to set up Reunion Committees for each class.

The Annual Honorary Alumni Dinner on April 18, 1998 will serve as the focus for events that will be planned by each class. If you are interested in helping plan events, participate in a telephone chain to contact class members or help find missing class members, please contact Dr. Paul Herman, Livingston Dean's Office, Lucy Stone Hall, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 732.445.4122, or paherman@rci. rutgers. edu

LIVINGSTON PRIDE AWARD

by Jeffrey Isaacs '84

On May 4, 1997, at the Dean's Awards Banquet, I had the pleasure of presenting the annual LAA Pride Award.

The Pride Award is presented to a graduating senior who, in the opinion of the LAA Executive Board, gave extraordinary service to the College during their time as a student. This year's recipient was Connie A. Liauw. Connie, from Vineland, NJ, was a tour guide for three years; an ANIMA participant for three years; a Resident Advisor for two years and a member of the alcohol awareness committee for one year. She was a volunteer at the Tot Spot Day Care Center and the Livingston Day Care Center, sang in the Voorhees Choir for four years as well as a member of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity where she also served as Public Relations Chair, Initiation Chair and Service Chair for the Fraternity. In addition to other activities, Connie interned at the RU Sports Information Office and compiled the weekly church bulletins for the Kirkpatrick Chapel. She also served as Treasurer of the Class of 1997. Our congratulations to her on her receipt of the 1997 LAA Pride Award.

Livingston Alumni Association

7 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1262

732.932.7061

❍ **YES** Please enroll me as a member of the Livingston Alumni Association for the membership year July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998.

Please check only one:

❍ Class of '97, '96, or '95 ..... $10.00

❍ All others $15.00

❍ Both Spouses Livingston College Graduates $25.00

❍ Lifetime Membership $275.00

Name(s) _____ Class Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (Home) _____ Work _____

❍ I am interested in getting involved in the operation of the LAA. Please contact me.

Check payable to the LAA at 7 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1262

MEMBER BENEFITS-----

Discount Long Distance Telephone Service

25% discount at the Rutgers Bookstore

10% discount on food and lodging at The Corners Inn, Bridgewater Corners, VT

Discount admission to LAA events

4 issues of the *Rutgers* magazine, featuring a Livingston column

Alumni Federation Group Life and Disability Insurance programs

Alumni Federation Credit Card

Discount Travel programs

Discounts on books published by the Rutgers University Press

Livingston Alumni Association Officers

Jeffrey M. Isaacs,'84, President

William S. Bauer, Jr.,'86, Ist Vice President

Robert J. Uhrik, '78, 2nd Vice President

Lorna A. Kirby,'87, Secretary

Linda S. Zytynski,'87, Treasurer

Board Members:

Mark Weller,'85

Michelle Ostrowski,'88

Campus Update

If you haven't been on the Livingston Campus for a while, you probably would not believe what you see. The old stories of Springtime mud and a tree barren campus are just that, old stories. Staying true to its suburban setting, the campus has turned into a garden with trees growing everywhere but the open playing fields, splashes of color as flowers bloom, and a center core of the campus that remains traffic free. It is a place for people.

Livingston 101

Livingston 101 is a course for First Year Students that is designed to help students make a successful adjustment to college life. Taught by nearly the entire staff of the College, students meet for the first ten weeks of the Fall semester and consider issues such as time management, study skills, library use, computer use, health and wellness issues, academic Integrity, and developing social relationships, among others. Research has demonstrated the effectiveness of the course that serves as a focus for academic and career advising for new students.
Livingston 101 remains the only course like it in the University.

Livingston Courses

This Fall, nearly all First Year Students will enroll in a new course entitled "Seeking Justice and Creating Community." The course will explore the formation of group identity, the nature of intergroup conflict and study historical attempts to resolve local, national and global conflicts. This "mission course" will be the first Livingston course in a new effort to define the uniqueness of a Livingston College education. This interdisciplinary, team taught effort, places Livingston in the forefront of national educational efforts to encourage the growth of an interdisciplinary curriculum. As an extra bonus, this course will substitute for one ADR requirement.

Kaz Wilson '92 presents class gift.

Livingston Campus

For the first time in many years, almost all First Year students will take all their courses on the Livingston Campus.

Mediation Project

This Fall, a student initiated "mediation project" will train students to serve as mediators to resolve conflicts within the Livingston community. The concept of conflict mediation was encouraged when the University adopted a new Code of Student Conduct four years ago. Now, Livingston will lead the way in exploring alternative ways of conflict resolution. The Class of '82 has offered substantial financial support for this project that will help Livingston, once again, to lead the way at RU.

Linda Zytynski, '87, presents class gift.

Help From Our Friends

One of the most notable changes over the past few years is the vital increase in financial contributions to Livingston College from a large group of alumni and friends of the College.

Livingston, frequently known as the "poor sister" of the undergraduate colleges in New Brunswick, has experienced three successive years of 100% increases in the amount of dollars raised to support its programs!

The impact of this increasing support is of major significance to the College and its students in the following ways:

The number and amount of scholarship awards from the Livingston Scholarship Fund have increased, helping the

College maintain its tradition of access to higher education for poor and disadvantaged students.

Contributions to the Dean's Fund have encouraged the creation of additional co-curricular opportunities that enhance the education of students.

Contributions to the Dean's Fund have added improvements to facilities and enhanced the atmosphere on campus.

The Class of 82 contributions to the Mediation Project have made that project possible.

Bill Bowman, '82, presenting class gift.

Endowed Scholarships

Four new endowed scholarships are the first four in the history of the College. These include Max Weinreb Scholarship for a Junior or Senior in Political Science, the Kenneth Christmon Scholarship for a student majoring in social work, the Lynton Fellows Scholarship to a Junior or Senior who has demonstrated a commitment to inter-racial understanding, and the Ronca Memorial Scholarship supporting a student in the Livingston Honors Program.

Perhaps the most important feature of this increased financial support from alumni and friends is the support to Livingston College that this commitment demonstrates to the University Community. As always, success in one area brings success in others. The College is indebted to these individuals who have demonstrated this support.
When your annual appeal letter arrives in the Fall, please show your support for Livingston College by making a contribution, thus demonstrating your commitment and helping our students.

Springfest '97

by Michele Ostrowski

Both Alumni and students were entertained on April 19th at Livingston's annual Springfest. Like last year the Festival was held inside the Livingston Gym due to the threat of rain. Springfest attendees were treated to the music of many live bands, giveaways, and lots of food.
For those on the athletic side, a plastic mountain could be climbed, or you could try your luck at the horizontal bungee jump. A few daring students became Japanese Sumo wrestlers for the day. As long as you were willing to wear a heavy plastic suit, you could learn what it really means to throw your weight around.

A new attraction that I tried was the virtual reality game. The goal of the game is to shoot your opponent, who has also just entered the virtual world. The 3 minutes of the game go really fast and was fun. My only complaint was that I could not hear any instructions due to the loudness of the band.

Who knows what next years Springfest will bring, but it is sure to bring fun. Remember you don't have to be a student to attend, but you can feel like one again that day.

Bill Cole, '77, presenting class gift.

Commencement '97

At this year's Commencement Dr. Lona Hooks, Secretary of State for New Jersey was the featured speaker, and Ravi Munjuluri was the speaker for the Class of 97. 483 students received degrees at the ceremony.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Global Futures Symposia is an interdisciplinary lecture series exploring the varied processes and consequences of contemporary globalization. The 1997-98 series is tentatively titled "Shaping Culture and Community," and will focus on the equitable participation of diverse groups in the process of cultural and social advancement. Specific dates will be set closer to the event. The schedule for 1997-98 is tenative as follows: Mid September, Journalism; Mid November, Geography; All are open to the public. Call 732.445.2065 for information.

October 21, 1997. Dr. Will Keim, author of The Education of Character will speak at 8 PM in the Livingston Student Center. Dr. Keim is a nationally known author and lecturer whose reputation as a humorous and thought provoking speaker is well established.

October 25, 1997. Homecoming Football Game in the Rutgers Stadium. For tickets call 732.445.2766

Mid November Global Futures Lecture on Geography in the Student Center. Call 732.445.2065 for information.

February date to be announced: Basketball Game. Call 732.932.7061 for more information once basketball season begins. See the new Scarlet Knights under new Head Coach Bannon.

Early February Global Futures lecture on Political Science. Call 732.445.2065 for information.

Late March Global Futures Lecture on Music in the Student Center. Call 732.445.2065 for information.

April 18, 1998. Honorary Alumni Dinner and Reunion Weekend.

Check out our Home Page at http://www.rutgers. edu/nbcampus/livingston
To get in on the College's Electronic Mailing List, send an email to paherman@rci.rutgers.edu